

# 2015 Consumer Confidence Report

Water System Name: County Service Area No 11 Report Date: June 17, 2016

*We test the drinking water quality for many constituents as required by state and federal regulations. This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 - December 31, 2015 and may include earlier monitoring data.*

**Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Si necesita una explicación del contenido de este reporte llame al número (650) 599-1473.**

Type of water source(s) in use: Groundwater Wells

Name & general location of source(s): Wells 1 and 2 are located in Pescadero. Well 2 is designated as a standby well and did not supply any drinking water in 2015.

Drinking Water Source Assessment information: Prepared by County Environmental Health Services in November 2002. Assessment Summary included at end of the Report.

Time and place of regularly scheduled board meetings for public participation: 9:00 am, Tuesday Mornings, Board of Supervisors Chambers, 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063

For more information, contact: Mark Chow, Principal Civil Engineer Phone: (650) 599-1489

## TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGs) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

**Public Health Goal (PHG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHGs are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

**Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS):** MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

**Secondary Drinking Water Standards (SDWS):** MCLs for contaminants that affect taste, odor, or appearance of the drinking water. Contaminants with SDWSs do not affect the health at the MCL levels.

**Treatment Technique (TT):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**Regulatory Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

**Variances and Exemptions:** State Board permission to exceed an MCL or not comply with a treatment technique under certain conditions.

**ND:** not detectable at testing limit

**ppm:** parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

**ppb:** parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L)

**ppt:** parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

**ppq:** parts per quadrillion or picogram per liter (pg/L)

**pCi/L:** picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

**The sources of drinking water** (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

**Contaminants that may be present in source water include:**

- *Microbial contaminants*, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- *Inorganic contaminants*, such as salts and metals, that can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- *Pesticides and herbicides*, that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- *Organic chemical contaminants*, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, that are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems.
- *Radioactive contaminants*, that can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

**In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink**, the USEPA and the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. State Board regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

**Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 list all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the most recent sampling for the constituent.** The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The State Board allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, are more than one year old.

**TABLE 1 – SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF COLIFORM BACTERIA**

Microbiological Contaminants (complete if bacteria detected)	Highest No. of Detections	No. of months in violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
Total Coliform Bacteria	(In a mo.) 0	0	More than 1 sample in a month with a detection	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or <i>E. coli</i>	(In the year) 0	0	A routine sample and a repeat sample detect total coliform and either sample also detects fecal coliform or <i>E. coli</i>	0	Human and animal fecal waste

**TABLE 2 – SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF LEAD AND COPPER**

Lead and Copper (complete if lead or copper detected in the last sample set)	Sample Date	No. of samples collected	90 <sup>th</sup> percentile level detected	No. sites exceeding AL	AL	PHG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	2015	5	0	0	15	0.2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	2015	5	0.660	0	1.3	0.3	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

**TABLE 3 – SAMPLING RESULTS FOR SODIUM AND HARDNESS**

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium (ppm)	2015	47		none	none	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm)	2015	104		none	none	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring

\*Any violation of an MCL or AL is asterisked. Additional information regarding the violation is provided later in this report.

**TABLE 4 – DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD**

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant
<b>INORGANIC CHEMICALS</b>						
Arsenic (ppb)	2015	2.2		10	0.004	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Fluoride (ppm)	2015	0.13		2.0	1	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Hexavalent Chromium (ppb)	2014	3.9	3.3 – 4.5	10	0.02	Discharge from electroplating factories, leather tanneries, wood preservation, chemical synthesis, refractory production, and textile manufacturing facilities; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate [NO <sub>3</sub> ] (ppm)	2015	13		45	45	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes)	2015	<0.50		80	N/A	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS</b>						
Gross Alpha Activity [composite result] (pCi/L)	2004	0.76		15	(0)	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228 (pCi/L)	2009	0.754	N/A	5	0.019	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium [composite result] (pCi/L)	2004	0.46		20	0.43	Erosion of natural deposits

**TABLE 5 – DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD**

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Chloride (ppm)	2015	81		500	none	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Specific Conductance (µmhos/cm)	2015	500	490 - 510	1,600	none	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	2015	16		500	none	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids [TDS] (ppm)	2015	330		1,000	none	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	2015	0.16		5	none	Soil runoff

\*Any violation of an MCL, MRDL, or TT is asterisked. Additional information regarding the violation is provided later in this report.

### Additional General Information on Drinking Water

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. USEPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

### **Drinking Water Source Assessment and Protection (DWSAP) Program**

A source water assessment was conducted for the Well 01 and Well 02 of the County Service Area No. 11 water system in November 2002. The source is considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants:

Historic waste dumps/landfills

#### **Discussion of Vulnerability**

There have been no contaminants detected in the water supply, however the source is still considered vulnerable to activities located near the drinking water source. The source is most vulnerable to the following activities that were identified within the recharge area for Well 01 and Well 02:

1. Historic Waste Dumps/Landfills – Potential source of household and industrial chemicals.
2. Transportation Corridors – Road Right-of-ways (herbicide use areas) – potential source of herbicides used to control weeds along roadside and potential source of automotive chemicals.
3. Well 02 – Waste Transfer/Recycling Stations – a potential source of illicitly disposed household, industrial or agricultural chemicals. Also a potential source for bacterial contamination.

The CSA 11 public water system conducts routine periodic monitoring of the water quality from Well 01 and Well 02 to ensure that the water supply is safe for human consumption. The well heads are secured and protected from surface flooding.

A copy of the complete assessment can be obtained at:

State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water Field Operations Branch  
850 Marina Bay Parkway  
Building P, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Richmond, CA 94804-9403